

Claims

1. Container with a base body consisting of a base plate and side walls standing up therefrom in an at least almost perpendicular arrangement, and having wells disposed in the base body, wherein the wells (5) are provided in the form of a recess in the base plate (3) and the side walls (4) of the base plate (3) are disposed in at least the substantially opposite direction from the recesses in order to accommodate a volume.
2. Container as claimed in claim 1, wherein the wells (5) are arranged in a uniform pattern.
3. Container as claimed in claim 2, wherein there are 6, 12, 24, 48, 96, 384 or 1536 wells (5).
4. Container as claimed in claim 2 or 3, wherein the wells (5) are of a conical or cylindrical design.
5. Container as claimed in one of claims 2 to 4, wherein the wells (5) have a capacity selected from a range with a lower limit of 0.01 μ l, preferably 0.5 μ l, in particular 0.1 μ l, and an upper limit of 50 μ l, preferably 10 μ l, in particular 5 μ l.
6. Container as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the bases (6) of the wells (5) are disposed in a plane parallel with the container support surface.
7. Container as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the base plate (3) and the wells (5) are specifically surface-treated for producing bio-macro molecules (110).
8. Container as claimed in one of claims 2 to 7, wherein the wells (5) are surface-treated with aldehyde, silane, epoxy, thiol, polyethylene glycol (PEG), polyoxyethylene-sorbitan-monolaureate (Tween®), magnetic materials, streptavidin or biotin.
9. Container as claimed in one of claims 2 to 8, wherein the wells (5) are square, rectangular, conical or semi-spherical as seen from a side view.

10. Container as claimed in one of claims 2 to 9, wherein the wells (5) are round, quadrangular, such as square or rectangular, hexagonal, octagonal or in the shape of a parallelogram as seen in plan view.
11. Container as claimed in one of claims 2 to 10, wherein the wells (5), in particular the bases of the wells, are at least partially made from a transparent plastic.
12. Container as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the base plate (3), in particular between the wells (5), is at least partially non-transparent.
13. Container as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the surface (14) of the base plate (3), in particular between the wells (5), is surface-treated or has a hydrophobic mask applied to it.
14. Container as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the base body (2) is made from a material selected from a group consisting of polypropylene, polystyrene, acrylo-butadiene-styrene, polyamide, polycarbonate, polymethyl methacrylate, polysulphone, cyclo-olefin copolymer, polymethyl pentene (TPX®) and/or styrene-acrylonitrile.
15. Container as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the base body (2) is made from several different materials.
16. Container as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein a co-ordinate marker is provided for indicating the layout of the wells (5) in the base plate (3).
17. Container as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the base body (2) is preferably made by an injection-moulding process.
18. Container as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein a recess (15) is provided on the longitudinal side (19) and/or on the transverse side (20) of the base body (2).
19. Container as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein the dimensions of

the base body (2) conform to the recommendations of the SBS (Society of Biomolecular Screening).

20. Container as claimed in one of the preceding claims, wherein at least one retaining element (17) is provided on the side walls (4) of the container (1) for a unit (22) which subdivides a volume of a container (1) into part-regions.

21. Unit for sub-dividing a volume of a container (1) into part-regions, wherein it is of a lattice-type design.

22. Unit as claimed in claim 21, wherein the webs (23) are enclosed by a frame (24) round the outside.

23. Unit as claimed in claim 21 or 22, wherein spacers (24) are provided on the bottom face of the unit (22) to establish a flow connection between the part-regions.

24. Unit as claimed in one of claims 21 to 23, wherein the webs (23) of the unit (22) are disposed at right-angles to one another.

25. Unit as claimed in one of claims 21 to 24, wherein the height of the unit (22) in the intersecting regions (31) of the webs (23) or the webs (23) with the frame (24) is one third to a half higher than it is between the intersecting regions (31).

26. Unit as claimed in one of claims 21 to 25, wherein the webs (23) and/or the frame (24) are of identical height.

27. Unit as claimed in one of claims 21 to 26, wherein the frame (24) has spacers (26) for holding the unit (22) at a distance from the side walls (4) of the container (1).

28. Unit as claimed in one of claims 21 to 27, wherein the external dimensions are slightly smaller than the dimensions of the container (1).

29. Unit as claimed in one of claims 21 to 28, wherein it is made from a material se-

lected from a group consisting of polypropylene, polystyrene, acrylo-butadiene-styrene, polyamide, polycarbonate, polymethyl methacrylate, polysulphone, cyclo-olefin copolymer, polymethyl pentene (TPX®) and/or styrene-acrylo-nitrile.

30. Crystallisation device (32) comprising a container (1) with a base body (2), a base plate (3) and side walls (4) standing out therefrom in an at least approximately perpendicular arrangement, with wells (4) disposed in the base body (2), and a unit (22) for subdividing a volume of a container (1) into part-regions as claimed in one of claims 1 to 20 and one of claims 21 to 29.

31. Use of the container (1) as claimed in one of claims 1 to 20 for crystallising bio-macro molecules (11) in a crystallisation reagent (12) in or under a hydrophobic liquid (9).

32. Use of the unit (22) as claimed in one of claims 21 to 29 for reducing waves of a volume as it moves in a container.

33. Use of the crystallisation device (32) as claimed in claim 30 for crystallising bio-macro molecules (11) in a crystallisation reagent (12) in or under a hydrophobic liquid (9).